POPULATION TODAY

Vol. 17, No. 10 October 1989

FEATURES

3 Contraceptives around the world
In less developed countries, close to half of all couples of childbearing age may now be contraceptive users

4 Gains of U.S. blacks have stalled since the 1970s
Economic stagnation, racial discrimination cited in major new study

5 The factors behind Kenya's surprising fertility decline
Average lifetime births per woman down to 6.7 children as contraceptive knowledge and use rise

6 State-by-state poverty data getting harder to calculate
How reliable are the CPS estimates?

8 Gearing up the 1991 Nigerian census
Africa's most populous country prepares for first census since 1963

9 Perspectives on teenage parenting
PRB's newest teaching kit reports on worldwide problem

9 PRB to celebrate 60th anniversary

12 Albania has the highest fertility in Europe
A look at the least-known Eastern bloc country, which is 70-percent Moslem

DEPARTMENTS

2 From the editor's desk
2 Speaking graphically
5 Survey report (Kenya)
6 Demographer's page
8 Positions/Professionals
9 Software
9 Population update
10 Take a number
11 Current readings
12 Spotlight (Albania)

Leon Bouvier

The door has opened wider.
(See page 3.)

PRB

A publication of the Population Reference Bureau, Inc.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Science writer Isaac Asimov once said that the world's greatest educational motivator was sheer interest. Everything is connected to everything else, he argued, and if you get seriously hooked on (for example) baseball, you're inevitably going to become familiar with such allied fields as statistics, physics, medicine, architecture, history (and – though he tactfully didn't mention them – pharmacology, labor relations, contract law ...).

Of course, no matter what subject you get hooked on, you're eventually going to cross the path of statistics. To help you out with that dreaded encounter, "Against All Odds: An Introduction to Statistics" is a public television series that has just premiered.

Every week, host Solomon Garfunkel whirls viewers through the world of numbers and how it relates to the everyday one, starting from the mean and median and working up to correlations of various variables.

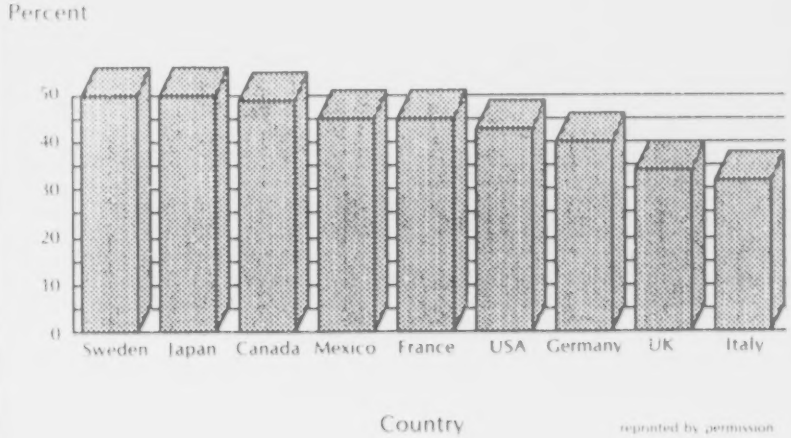
Consisting of 26 half-hour programs, "Against All Odds" will be used as part of a "telecourse" connected with local universities and colleges. As such, its schedule, and indeed whether it airs in your viewing area this semester at all, will depend on current local course offerings.

May "Against All Odds" flourish, for the sake of national "numeracy." Contact your local public-TV station for details.

– Art Haupt

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

Adults' Knowledge of U.S. Population as Surveyed in Selected Countries



reprinted by permission

Above is a graph from a 1988 survey of geographic knowledge conducted by the Gallup Organization for the National Geographic Society. As can be seen, several other nationalities had a firmer grasp of U.S. population size (which was 248.6 million as of June 1989) than did Americans.

Moreover, this was no trick demographic question that hinged on counting institutional population in Guam excluding Coast Guard serving on detached service overseas. Any answer between 150 million and 300 million was scored as "correct."

POPULATION TODAY

VOL. 17, NO. 10 **October 1989**

POPULATION TODAY, the newsmonthly of population and demography, is published 11 times a year (a combined issue in July/August) by the Population Reference Bureau, Inc., founded in 1929, a nonprofit organization engaged in the dissemination of objective population information. The views and opinions of POPULATION TODAY's contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of PRB.

Editor: Arthur Haupt
Demographic Editor: Carl Haub
Book Review Editor: Nazy Roudi
Contributing Editors: Mary Kent (Survey Report); Wendy Patriquin (Spotlight)
Consulting Editors: Thomas W. Merrick, Kim Crews, Alex de Sherbinin, Carol J. DeVita, Judy Felt, Jennifer Lisstelt, Kane Scarlett, Barbara Shane, Nancy Yinger
Director of Publications: Winthrop P. Carty
Production Manager: Tracey A. Smith
Production Assistant: Martha Herr
Circulation Director: Jacki Majewski
Manager of Development: Schuyler Richardson

Editorial and Circulation Offices:
Population Reference Bureau, Inc.
777 14th St., N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 639-8040

Reprint Permission: Material from POPULATION TODAY may be reproduced freely, provided that credit is given to "POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, Inc." and a copy of the publication in which the material appears is forwarded to PRB.

Back Issues: Back issues of POPULATION TODAY and its predecessor INTERCOM are available in limited quantities from PRB for $2.00 per copy.

Mailing: Printed in Washington, D.C. Mailed nonprofit postage rate in the United States, printed matter surface rate to Canada, Mexico, and to foreign subscribers.

Address Changes: Send current PRB address label and new address; please allow eight weeks for change.

1989 by the Population Reference Bureau, Inc.

ISSN 0749-2448

PRB MEMBERSHIP

In addition to POPULATION TODAY, PRB members receive annually four in-depth POPULATION BULLETINS, and two wall charts (the WORLD and UNITED STATES POPULATION DATA SHEETS).

	U.S.	Outside the U.S.
Individual	$45	$56
Educator*	30	38
Student*	25	28
Library/nonprofit organizations	55	68
Other organizations	200	250

*Educators and students should send supporting documentation.

Global Contraceptive Use Rises

Half of all couples of childbearing age may now be practicing some form of contraception.

So reports the United Nations in a recent, major assessment that estimates the level of contraceptive use by region and country, and by specific method, as of 1983.

The table below presents the UN's new contraceptive prevalence estimates for the entire world by region, given low, medium, and high assumptions. As can be seen, the lowest levels of use (measured as percentage of married women of reproductive age currently using contraception) are found in Africa, while the highest levels are located in East Asia, a region whose widespread contraceptive use rivals even the more developed countries (MDCs).

As usual with demographic statistics, the "China effect" is significant. With China's prevalence rate of 74 percent, the medium assumption for the less developed countries (LDCs) as a group rises to 45 percent. With China's numbers left out, the LDC figure drops to 33 percent.

Arriving at a global – or even a regional – level of contraceptive prevalence is an arduous task, as any demographer will attest. But in recent years the interest of national governments in their country's fertility has increased, aided by greatly improved availability of data.

Thus, while in many cases, the UN statisticians have had to adjust for different years or make projections for unsurveyed countries based on results for similar, surveyed ones, they have done so on the basis of contraceptive survey data for 97 countries containing over 80 percent of the world's population. Populations for which fertility data are lacking now constitute a distinct world minority.

Oddly enough, prevalence data are available for a greater percentage of the population of the LDCs than for that of the MDCs; this is largely due to a lack of prevalence data for one major MDC country, namely, the USSR.

Because survey results had to be applied to areas where no data were available, there is a range of possible error in the estimates. For this reason a range of low, medium, and high assumptions is given.

Projecting the data results, the study found that surgical sterilization continues to be the world's most popular form of birth control, constituting 36 percent of world contraceptive practice. Intrauterine devices are second (19 percent), and oral contraceptives third (15 percent), followed by condoms (10 percent), withdrawal (8 percent), and periodic abstinence (7 percent).

The survey reflects the durability of a worldwide trend, already observed in earlier studies, toward rising contraceptive use and declining fertility. Overall, from 1960-1965 (the height of the post-World War II "population explosion") to 1983, the benchmark year of the study, contraceptive use is estimated to have grown from 9 percent to 45 percent of couples of childbearing age. Although separating program effects from cultural and economic ones is also difficult, countries where contraceptive use has grown rapidly tend in addition to be countries with "strong" family planning programs.

Further, prevalence is strongly related to fertility level; the data suggest that the total fertility rate (TFR) declines by an average of 0.7 lifetime children per woman for every 10 percent that contraceptive prevalence rises.

These statistics indicate that significant progress has been made toward raising contraceptive use. Nevertheless, they also raise questions about ultimate levels of future population size. The UN has consistently projected future world population totals on the assumption that fertility levels will continue to follow a smooth curve down

Continued on next page

U.N. Photo/Philip Jayaseher

A village family planning meeting in Bangladesh

Global Estimates of the Percentage of Married Women of Reproductive Age Currently Using Contraception, Late 1983

Area	Prevalence level		
	Low	Medium	High
World	47	51	55
Developing regions	41	45	49
Developing regions excl. China	28	33	38
Africa	9	14	19
Asia*	46	50	54
East Asia	70	74	77
South Asia	29	34	39
Latin America	52	56	60
Developed regions	66	70	76

Source: Levels and Trends of Contraceptive Use as Assessed in 1988

*Excluding Japan, which is included in "Developed regions."

Black-White Gap Persisting Despite Gains

A comprehensive, four-year National Research Council study on the state of black America over the last 50 years has found that blacks still lag behind whites by nearly every indicator, despite great advances for both blacks and whites.

The July 1989 report, *A Common Destiny: Blacks and American Society*, found that from 1940-1970, blacks gained relative to whites in nearly every measurable area of American society. Sustained postwar economic growth, blacks' self-reliance, and laws outlawing discrimination were responsible for these advances, the committee noted.

The report adds, however, that since the early 1970s, these gains have faltered, due to economic stagnation and persistent racial discrimination.

Among the report's specific findings:

Economic Status: Blacks' per capita income in 1984 was 57 percent that of whites, up from 39 percent in 1939 but no higher than it was in 1971. Poverty rates, after declining substantially from 93 to 30 percent for blacks and 65 to 9 percent for whites between 1939 and 1974, have stopped falling since then – indeed rising to 31 percent for blacks and 11 percent for whites by 1986.

Residential Segregation: Black-white segregation in many metropolitan areas is almost as high today as in the 1960s – significantly higher, in fact, than that for Hispanics and Asian-Americans.

Health: Blacks remain behind whites on most health indicators. For example, the black-white gap in life expectancy, although cut in half between 1950 and 1985, has narrowed slowly since 1960 – especially among men. At 65.3 years, black men's average life expectancy in 1985 is lower than that of white men in 1950 (66.5 years). Access to health care presents another problem, with 22 percent of blacks and 14 percent of whites under 65 covered by neither private health insurance nor Medicaid in 1982.

Child and Family Issues: Since the postwar baby boom, fertility rates for black and white women have fallen toward replacement level. (Black women's total fertility rate in 1984 was 2.1 children, compared to 1.7 for white women.) Black and white children, however, are living under different family structures, with 80 percent of white children but only 40 percent of black children under 18 living with both parents.

Lisa Youngblood

A suburban black family in 1989

Education: In spite of "substantial progress," opportunities for blacks and whites remain unequal. For example, the education level for blacks born in the late 1950s/early 1960s approximates that of whites of those cohorts (medians of 12.6 and 12.9 years, respectively), but the high school dropout rate for blacks, at about 20 percent, is almost double that of whites. Also, blacks are less than half as likely as whites to enter college within a year after graduation from high school, the committee noted.

The report also mentions blacks' political progress since 1940. When controlled for socioeconomic status, black voter participation has virtually caught up to that for whites, and the number of black public officials has increased dramatically. Blacks fare less well, the committee noted, in the criminal justice system, where they are overrepresented as both victims and offenders. The committee also found that although whites generally desire equal treatment for blacks, "principles of equality are endorsed less when they would result in close, frequent, or prolonged social contact" with large numbers of blacks.

Demographic changes should heighten current disparities, the report notes. According to the Census Bureau, blacks will make up 15 percent of the U.S. population by 2020 – up from 11.7 percent in 1980. By that time, nearly 1 in 5 school age children and 1 in 6 adults of "prime working age" (ages 25-54) will be black. These trends, combined with the expected rise in the proportion of Hispanics and Asian-Americans in the population, indicate that the "importance of racial and ethnic minorities to the nation's well-being is growing."

– *K.P.*

A Common Destiny: Blacks and American Society is available for $35 (prepaid) from National Academy Press. Interested persons may contact NAP at 2101 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, phone (202) 334-3313.

Contraception

Continued from previous page

(or up, in the case of low-fertility MDCs) to replacement level, in which couples average about 2.1 children.

As a result of these assumptions, the UN medium projections are on the order of 6.3 billion population as of 2000 and 8.5 billion in 2025, up from 1989's 5.2 billion.

What would such assumed fertility declines mean in terms of contraceptive use? The new assessment ventures to answer this question. For world population in 2025 to reach no higher than 8.5 billion, for example, would require the world's TFR to drop from the present 3.4 to 2.2 in 2025.

For *that* to happen, the study calculates that contraceptive use will have to rise still more – from today's roughly 50 percent of couples of reproductive age to 72 percent. In Africa, where prevalence is currently lowest (14 percent as of 1983), it would have to rise to 66 percent. The contention between population growth and family planning is far from over.

– *A.H.*

Levels and Trends of Contraceptive Use as Assessed in 1988, Population Studies No. 110, New York: United Nations, 1989. The UN Sales Number is E.89.XIII.4.

SURVEY REPORT

Kenya

Kenya has long had a reputation as the country with the highest national fertility rate in the world – notwithstanding recent data indicating that this distinction has been relinquished to nearby Rwanda.

As reported in *PT* last month, provisional data from the 1989 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS) show that Kenya's total fertility rate (TFR) now stands at 6.7 lifetime births per woman on average, a sharp decline from the 1984 Kenya Contraceptive Prevalence Survey rate of 7.7. Although some of this difference may be attributable to differences in methods of measurement, it is consistent with recent increases in contraceptive prevalence also documented by the survey.

As might be expected after the country's flurry of family planning program activity in recent years, the KDHS found that recognition of at least one method of contraception is nearly universal among Kenyan women.

The programs also seem to have had a long-awaited effect on contraceptive prevalence. Twenty-seven percent of married women are currently using contraception, and two-thirds of these users employ modern methods. The most commonly used method is periodic abstinence (7 percent), followed by the pill (5 percent) and female sterilization (5 percent).

These figures represent a 50-percent increase in use of contraception since 1984, with a doubling in the proportion using a modern method. Even more significantly, rates of use in urban and rural areas are very similar, showing that services and supplies have reached the rural sector. The educational barrier has not been penetrated as effectively; prevalence among those with no education is only 60 percent of that among primary school-educated women.

Government hospitals and clinics are the major suppliers of contraceptives and services, while Family Planning Association of Kenya (FPAK) clinics are the second most frequently mentioned sources for many methods. Most women using periodic abstinence learned of the method from relatives or friends.

There is still a disparity between contraceptive use and stated reproductive desires. Fifty-two percent of married women say they do not want any more children, a higher proportion than reported in many other sub-Saharan countries. An additional 26 percent say they want to wait at least two years before having a child. Thus, three out of four married women may be in need of family planning to achieve their reproductive intentions.

The major reason given for nonuse among women at risk of an unintended pregnancy is lack of knowledge (20 percent). Opposition of the husband (13 percent) and health concerns (12 percent) are the next most frequently cited reasons. About 20 percent of women not contracepting, but not wanting to become pregnant, say they are not at risk of pregnancy because they are menopausal, not often sexually active, or are breastfeeding.

The KDHS also interviewed 1,116 husbands from the same households where the wife was interviewed. The majority of these men, like the women interviewed, recognized at least one method of contraception, and most also knew of a source. Forty-eight percent said they are currently using a method of contraception, with periodic abstinence being the most common (25 percent of men interviewed), followed by the pill (8 percent), female sterilization (6 percent), and the IUD (5 percent). Only 3 percent said they were current users of condoms. Unlike the women interviewed, men were allowed to report current use of more than one method.

Better health for young Kenyans

Information on health for children age 0-4 years was also collected by the KDHS. About one in 10 children had diarrhea during the two weeks before the survey, and more than three in five of these received oral rehydration therapy as treatment. Immunization coverage was verified for only 48 percent of the children age 1-4 years for whom mothers had a health card. Seventy-two percent of these children are fully vaccinated against the six major childhood diseases.

Although these results are preliminary, they do indicate that Kenyan women are actively beginning to pursue their stated reproductive desires. Indeed, if the preliminary data on the fertility rate are borne out by further analysis, Kenya may acquire a new reputation for making the greatest and most rapid gains in contraceptive prevalence in sub-Saharan Africa.

– B.S.

DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

The Dilemma in Estimating Postcensal State Poverty Rates

by Kelvin M. Pollard

The effort to obtain good subnational poverty data has grown more intense during the 1980s, as public and private agencies at state and local levels have had to assume many policymaking functions once held by the federal government.

These data are necessary for economic and social programs. Their amount and quality have not, however, matched the need for them. At the state and substate level the major data source is the decennial census, but that cornucopia of data becomes increasingly dated with each passing year. Between censuses, the most reliable source of poverty data is the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly study of about 56,000 households used primarily to provide employment and basic demographic information for the civilian, noninstitutional population.[1]

The CPS's poverty data are primarily at the national level. The smaller the area of coverage, the less reliable CPS-derived statistics tend to be. Yet agencies and data users still call for updated poverty information at the subnational level.

Exactly how reliable are CPS-derived statistics in estimating state-level poverty? Various studies have tested for this. Ross and Danziger (1987) used the March 1980 and March 1986 CPS to estimate state poverty rates for 1979 and 1985, respectively. They found a high degree of unreliability when comparing the differences between the 1979 and 1985 rates. While the standard error for the national difference was less than three-tenths of a percentage point, that for individual states ranged from 1 to nearly 5 percentage points.

The authors also mentioned that CPS-based county poverty rates are impossible to obtain because county of residence is not reported. Even without that problem, though, the dilemma of small sample size would still exist.[2]

In an update of the 1987 study, Plotnick and Danziger (1988) pooled data for the March 1984, 1985, and 1986 CPS to gain "mid-1980s" state poverty rates. This method, since it increased the sample sizes, produced more reliable rates, but it also made linking the estimates to one specific year impossible.[3]

In estimating the *change* in state poverty rates during the 1980s, are the problems of relying too heavily on CPS data still present? By comparing 1980 Census and 1988 CPS data, I will attempt to answer this question.

> Poverty differences either way were the exception

Data and Methods

Data on poverty in 1979 came from the 1980 Census long-form questionnaire, which sampled approximately 19 percent of the country's estimated 80.5 million households – slightly over 15 million in all.[4] Compared with the roughly 56,000 households selected in the CPS, the larger sample size of the census produced more reliable statistics.

Data on poverty in 1987 came from the March 1988 CPS. In addition to employment and basic demographic information, this survey collected data on such characteristics as income and migration. The design of the 1988 CPS guaranteed that the sample was representative not only of the national population, but also of the populations of the individual states.[5]

For both the 1980 Census and the 1988 CPS, I used data which determined whether persons in the respective samples had money income below the poverty level – approximately $7,412 in 1979 and $11,611 in 1987 (for a family of four). The poverty level is an index developed by the Social Security Administration which uses a set of thresholds, or "cutoff points," based on consumption requirements as stated in the Department of Agriculture's 1961 Economy Food Plan.

The thresholds, adjusted annually for inflation, vary by such characteristics as family size, number of children under 18, and age of the head of household. Each member of a family whose yearly income falls below its particular threshold is considered to live in poverty. Thus, the poverty level figures I mentioned represent the average annual income threshold for a family of four.[6]

Results

After calculating the 1979 and 1987 poverty rates by state, I tested the differences in the rates for statistical significance from zero to be certain that a state's poverty rate had really changed during the 1980s.

Table 1 lists the poverty rates for 1979 and 1987, and the difference between the two rates, for each state and the District of Columbia, as well as for the nation as a whole. Nationally, the poverty level between 1979 and 1987 increased by just over a percentage point (from 12.4 to 13.6 percent). For individual states, 28 followed the national trend; that is, their poverty rates also increased in the 1980s. The other 22 states and the District of Columbia saw their poverty rates fall during this period.

The table shows that the poverty increases in a number of states were more dramatic than the decreases in others. West Virginia's poverty rate, for example, jumped 8 percentage points –

Kelvin M. Pollard is a research demographer at PRB

State Poverty Rates, 1979 and 1987

Census Division/ State	Poverty Rate (%), 1979	Poverty Rate (%), 1987	Absolute Change (in % points) 1979-1987
NEW ENGLAND			
Maine	13.0	12.2	−0.8
New Hampshire	8.5	3.5	−5.0**
Vermont	12.1	9.5	−2.6
Massachusetts	9.6	8.6	−1.0
Rhode Island	10.3	8.5	−1.8
Connecticut	8.0	6.9	−1.1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL			
Ohio	10.3	13.8	3.5**
Indiana	9.7	11.6	1.9
Illinois	11.0	14.5	3.4**
Michigan	10.4	12.4	1.9*
Wisconsin	8.7	7.7	−1.0
WEST NORTH CENTRAL			
Minnesota	9.5	12.0	2.6*
Iowa	10.1	15.1	5.0**
Missouri	12.2	14.1	1.9
North Dakota	12.6	12.3	−0.3
South Dakota	16.9	16.2	−0.7
Nebraska	10.7	12.7	2.0
Kansas	10.1	9.9	−0.2
SOUTH ATLANTIC			
Delaware	11.9	7.6	−4.3
Maryland	9.8	9.7	−0.2
Dist. of Columbia	18.6	14.0	−4.5
Virginia	11.8	9.8	−2.0*
West Virginia	15.0	23.1	8.1**
North Carolina	14.8	14.3	−0.5
South Carolina	16.6	15.5	−1.1
Georgia	16.6	14.9	−1.7
Florida	13.5	13.0	−0.5
MIDDLE ATLANTIC			
New York	13.4	14.8	1.4
New Jersey	9.5	8.8	−0.7
Pennsylvania	10.5	10.4	−0.0
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL			
Kentucky	17.6	16.8	−0.8
Tennessee	16.5	17.7	1.3
Alabama	18.9	21.2	2.3
Mississippi	23.9	25.6	1.7
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL			
Arkansas	19.0	22.2	3.2
Louisiana	18.6	25.2	6.6**
Oklahoma	13.4	16.9	3.5*
Texas	14.7	17.0	2.3**
MOUNTAIN			
Montana	12.3	18.4	6.1
Idaho	12.6	14.3	1.6
Wyoming	7.9	10.9	3.0
Colorado	10.1	12.7	2.6
New Mexico	17.6	19.9	2.3
Arizona	13.2	12.6	−0.5
Utah	10.3	10.6	0.3
Nevada	8.7	10.5	1.8
PACIFIC			
Washington	9.8	11.9	2.1
Oregon	10.7	13.1	2.4
California	11.4	12.6	1.3**
Alaska	10.7	11.6	0.9
Hawaii	9.9	9.0	−0.9
UNITED STATES	12.4	13.6	1.2*

*Statistically significant at .10 level **Statistically significant at .05 level

Sources: 1979 statistics: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *1980 Census of Population*. 1987 statistics: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Survey*, March 1988 (machine-readable data file).

the most of any state. Louisiana, Montana, and Iowa also saw their poverty rates increase by at least 5 percentage points. In fact, 17 states had poverty rates which increased 2 or more percentage points between 1979 and 1987, but only five – including New Hampshire, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, all with declines of over 4 points – experienced decreases of that magnitude.

As the table also shows, every state in New England experienced a decline in its poverty rate; except for West Virginia, the same held true for the South Atlantic states. The states whose poverty rates increased were mostly in the Midwest (East and West North Central divisions), South Central (East and West divisions), and West (Mountain and Pacific divisions). In those regions, only seven states – Wisconsin, the Dakotas, Kansas, Kentucky, Arizona, and Hawaii – saw their poverty rates decline. And the decreases in those states were 1 percentage point or smaller.

Discussion

Testing an estimate for statistical significance first involves calculating its standard error, which measures the estimate's reliability. Both the size of the estimate and the size of the sample determine the magnitude of error.

To deal with the unreliability of the estimates (since they were derived from samples), I first calculated the standard errors of the respective poverty rates for 1979 and 1987. I was then able to calculate standard errors for the differences between the rates. With both the differences and the standard errors of those differences, I could then test whether the changes between 1979 and 1987 rates were statistically significant.

Table 1 shows statistical significance was the exception rather than the rule among the states – only 12 had statistically significant differences at the .10 level (meaning at least a 90-percent probability that a state's poverty rate actually changed between 1979 and 1987).

For some of these states, there are reasonable explanations as to what may have happened. Take the states which had statistically significant increases, for example. The recession of the early 1980s and slow recovery in certain industries – sectors crucial to the economies of the affected states – might have accounted for the change. Examples of such industries include durable goods manufacturing (Ohio and Michigan), farming (Iowa), coal mining (West Virginia), and oil producing (Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas).

Continued on page 10

New Nigerian Census Planned for 1991

Nigeria will hold a national population census in November 1991 – a highly significant demographic event for both Nigerian government planners and population researchers. The most recent official census took place in 1963, over a quarter-century ago.

Nigeria has an estimated 1989 population of 115 million – a figure projected from the 1963 Census totals as well as fertility estimates. The new census's totals may diverge from previous estimates. But whatever the exact figure, Nigeria easily has the largest population of any country in Africa – twice as many as the second largest, Ethiopia. (The government sponsors a family planning program and has an official population goal of no more than 4 children per mother by 2000. Presently, women have an average of 6.6 lifetime births.)

The country (comprised of 21 states and presently under military rule), is larger than two Californias. But it is divided among numerous ethnic groups, the principal groups being the people of northern Nigeria, who are Moslem, and the southern and coastal population, who are Christian and animist. These two groups are probably about the same size – though because of the dearth of head counts, the exact proportion remains unknown.

In nations containing contending ethnic or religious factions, censuses can take on far more political significance – and controversy – than is the case in more homogeneous countries. Official population figures are pivotal in Nigeria because on them will depend the population-based apportionment of the national legislature, and hence, the country's political balance. (The legislative branch is currently suspended by military rule, but is slated to resume its functions.)

In 1962, shortly after independence from Great Britain, the first Nigerian national census was taken. Its results were repudiated by the government, and a second census was conducted in 1963, supervised by a central Census Board. This census also came under legal attack, but was ultimately accepted by the government.

The 1963 Census was both the first and the last official Nigerian census. In November 1973 a new census was held. But its provisional result was rejected by Nigeria's military government, who branded the reported population total of 79 million as too high, and criticized the ad hoc enumeration structure.

Only in the last year have preparations for a new census gained impetus. In June 1989 Alhaji Shahu Musa, chairman of Nigeria's National Population Commission, spoke to an audience at PRB's Washington office.

Musa described the ongoing preparations for 1991. The size of the enterprise is vast – Nigeria's population is close to half the size of the U.S.'s. Significant geographic barriers divide the country. But census planning is going forward, and the essentials for any head count – maps, manuals, forms – are being prepared.

There will be, Musa said, some 200,000 enumeration areas, 300,000 enumerators, and 50,000 supervisors. The enterprise will be run by his National Population Commission, with offices in all the 450 local governments. The UN Population Fund will provide assistance.

"Accuracy" and "acceptability" were two essential elements of the census, Musa said. The goal will be to hold the census within a three- or four-day period for purposes of simultaneity. Questionnaires will come in only one size, and the census will not include questions regarding religious and ethnic affiliation, on the theory that state population figures alone will cause controversy enough because of their effect on apportionment. "We must cross the river first" before adopting such ambitious enumeration proposals, Musa advised. Religion may be added to postenumeration surveys later.

State results will be verified using supervisors from outside each state. Detailed results will be published starting in 1992.

– A.H.

POSITIONS/PROFESSIONALS

Assistant Professor, a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, and as Faculty Associate in the Center on Population, Gender, and Social Inequality.

Requirements: PhD required; the Center is interested in candidates who specialize in demography with an emphasis on development and gender, but will consider demographers with other emphases. Teaching experience is helpful, but of primary interest is the candidate's potential for conducting publishable research and obtaining external grants.

Contact: Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references (but not reference letters) to Prof. Harriet Presser, Demography Search Committee, Dept. of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. 20742. For best consideration, materials should be received by Nov. 1, 1989.

The Rockefeller Foundation is continuing its **Social Science Research Fellowship** program in population studies for 1990, enabling up to six highly qualified persons holding social science doctorates within the last 10 years to receive appointments as scholars in developing countries, starting in late 1990.

They will be placed at universities that have training and research programs in population studies or at research centers. The program is open to citizens and permanent residents of the U.S. and Canada. Applications must be received by Dec. 31, 1989.

Contact: Fellowship Office, Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036.

New PRB Teaching Kit On Teenage Parenting

"Teenage Parents: A Global Perspective," PRB's newest teaching kit is designed for use in the junior high and high school.

Teenage childbearing and parenting have become major concerns in the U.S. and worldwide. The purpose of the materials in the teaching kit is to give students an overview of the health, social, psychological, economic, and demographic effects of teenage childbearing and subsequent parenting, worldwide. These materials introduce the issue from a global perspective giving students a framework to compare the United States to other countries.

This kit contains an informative 16-page student reading booklet of prereading questions, case studies, a glossary, worksheets, and a reading list, a wall-size data poster entitled "Teen Mothers: Global Patterns", and a teacher's guide.

—*K.C.*

Copies of "Teenage Parents: A Global Perspective" are $7.00 ea. PRB members receive a 20 percent discount for one copy. Send orders to PRB Circulation Dept., P.O. Box 96152, Washington, D.C. 20090-6152, with checks payable to PRB. Orders for $50 or less must be prepaid and include $1.00 or 5 percent (whichever is greater) for postage and handling.

PRB Awards Dinner

The Board of Trustees and the Staff of the Population Reference Bureau, Inc., cordially invite you to celebrate PRB's 60th anniversary at the 1989 Annual Awards Dinner recognizing outstanding contributions in the field of demography.

The dinner speaker will be Dr. Richard Berendzen, President of The American University.

Date: Thursday, Oct. 26, 1989
Time: Cocktails (cash bar) 6:30 pm
Dinner and Awards Ceremony 7:15 pm
Place: National Press Building
14th and F Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Awards Dinner tickets are $40 each. Send check to Population Reference Bureau, Attn.: Dyanne Johnson, 777 14th St., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005. Checks payable to PRB.

SOFTWARE

POPSYN is an integrated program that "puts all major demographic software at your fingertips," according to the developer, Garcia-Bogue Research and Development, Ltd. (GBR&D). POPSYN essentially consists of a controlling program developed by GBR&D which operates a collection of some 90 statistical and demographic programs written by others. Half of these were previously unavailable and include programs that evaluate and refine demographic data, construct life tables, perform population projections, and manipulate population models.

In order to fully utilize POPSYN, the user must also possess the United Nations life-table program MORTPAK-LITE, the East-West Population Institute fertility program EASWES, and Lotus 1-2-3 (ver. 2.01 or later). These programs are available from other sources, as well as from GRB&D.

Hardware requirements for POPSYN are an IBM PC, AT, or compatible with 640K memory, a hard disk, DOS 3.1 or higher, and a printer with either a wide carriage or condensed-print capability.

POPSYN costs $164.00 for developed-nation users and $140.00 for developing-nation users. For full information, contact GBR&D, P.O. Box 37-7710, Chicago, Ill. 60637. Phone (312) 947-2014.

—*A.H.*

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of June 1, 1989	248,557,000
As of June 1, 1988	246,104,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1042.

Estimated World Population:

As of October 1989	5,257,000,000
Annual growth	93,000,000

Extrapolated from the mid-1989 population on PRB's *1989 World Population Data Sheet*.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: April 1989

	12 months ending with April					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1989	1988	1989	1988	1987	1986
Live births	3,933,000	3,833,000	16.0	15.7	15.5	15.7
Deaths	2,150,000	2,164,000	8.7	8.9	8.7	8.7
Natural increase	1,783,000	1,669,000	7.3	6.8	6.8	7.0
Marriages	2,385,000	2,388,000	9.7	9.8	10.0	10.2
Divorces	1,182,000	1,155,000	4.8	4.7	4.8	5.0
Infant deaths	38,500	38,300	9.8	10.0	10.3	10.5
Population base (in millions)			246.5	244.1	241.8	239.1

Note. Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births.

Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 38, No. 4) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

Demographer's Page

Continued from page 7

As for New Hampshire and Virginia – the only states with statistically significant *decreases* – the influx of jobs, which sparked booming economies, may have led to their declines in poverty. For most states, however, speculation is fruitless because of the lack of statistically significant changes.

The results of the test for statistical significance call into question sole reliance on the CPS in estimating state poverty rates, for which its sample design was not intended. But the increased policy responsibilities of state and local agencies have enlarged the need of these organizations for intercensal poverty estimates. Faced with this dilemma, what are they to do?

One answer might lie in demographic methods similar to those used to provide intercensal population estimates. Agencies in states such as Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, New York, Texas, and Minnesota have attempted regression-type models using various symptomatic indicators (e.g., unemployment rate, number of AFDC recipients, and per capita income) in estimating poverty at the state and county level. The added responsibilities placed on state and local governments in matters related to policy, as well as the growing need for intercensal statistics by data users in general, encourages continued exploration and refinement of such methods.

References

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census. *Current Population Survey, March 1988 Tape Technical Documentation*. Prepared by Data User Services Division, Data Access and Use Staff, Bureau of the Census. Washington D.C.: Bureau of the Census, 1988.
2. Ross, Christine, and Sheldon Danziger. Poverty Rates by State, 1979 and 1985: A Research Note. *Focus* 10:3 (Fall 1987): 1-5.
3. Plotnick, Robert D., and Sheldon Danziger. Poverty Rates by State in the Mid-1980s: An Update. *Focus* 11:3 (Fall 1988): 12-14.
4. U.S. Bureau of the Census. *1980 Census of Population*. Volume 1, Characteristics of the Population. Chapter C, General Social and Economic Characteristics. United States Summary. Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1983.
5. _____. *Current Population Survey, March 1988 Tape Technical Documentation*.
6. Current Population Reports. Series P-60, No. 163. *Poverty in the United States: 1987*. Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1989.

TAKE A NUMBER

A Nation of. . .: Throughout its early history, the U.S. was known as a "nation of farmers." While that truism is no longer true, it's revealing to see just how dramatically the U.S. occupational structure has changed since colonial days. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists 1.2 million Americans as "farmers" during 1986 and projects that by 2000, there will be but 850,000 farmers left, which may be fewer than existed when George Washington was President.

If the country is no longer a nation of farmers, then what is it? That depends a bit on how occupational categories are grouped, but here are some of the prime contenders (figures below are in millions).

Secretaries, 4.4 million in 1986, 4.6 projected for 2000; retail salespersons, 3.6 in 1986, 4.8 in 2000; truck drivers, 2.5 and 3.0; chefs, cooks, and kitchen workers, 2.6 and 3.4; food service workers, 4.2 and 5.8; registered nurses, 1.4 and 2.0; school and college teachers, 3.6 and 4.1; and janitorial/building service workers, 3.1 and 3.8.

Specific occupations that either now outnumber farmers or are projected to by 2000 are: information clerks, stock clerks, nurses' aides/orderlies, waiters, waitresses, and guards. Even nonfarm gardeners and groundskeepers are expected to outnumber farmers, a result of expected growth in the lawn care industry. And by 2000, farmers' numbers will be challenged by the number of lawyers, who should number 718,000. More lawyers than farmers? It could happen here.

Here and There. . .: Singapore reports a sharp rise in its crude birth rate in 1988, 20.0 births per 1,000 population, compared to 16.8 in 1987, and 14.8 in 1986. . . . the crude birth rate in Italy, the country with the world's lowest total fertility rate, did not continue to fall from its record low level in 1987, but rose slightly in 1988, to 9.9 from 9.6. . . . an increasingly pervasive trend: fertility in Northern and Western Europe continues to rise (will Sweden return to replacement level?), while rates in most European countries with traditionally higher fertility – Eastern and Southern Europe, along with Ireland – are headed in the opposite direction.

– C.H.

ADDENDA

In the U.S.'s Northeast, the region with the highest median age (a relatively wizened 33.5 years, as of 1988), eyeglasses are considered a big deal when a new shipment reaches the convenience stores (this one in Massachusetts).

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

SAVING THE TROPICAL FORESTS, by Judith Gradwohl and Russell Greenberg. Covelo, Calif.: Island Press, 1988. 207 pages. $24.95 cloth. ISBN 0-933280-81-5.

This book comes in two parts: a review of the dynamics of the destruction of the world's tropical forests and 40 case studies of vestpocket projects that "show there are solutions."

The authors succinctly review the reasons for and the consequences of the uprooting of the rain forests at the astonishing rate of 20 to 40 hectares every minute. The authors' tightly reasoned explanation of the problem, albeit familiar material, is worth the price of the book.

The case studies of 40 miniprojects make fascinating reading, too, but they don't make the case for available solutions. The varied projects cover the successful maintenance of forest reserves, sustainable agroforestry, able natural forest management, and restoration of tropical forest areas.

Part II seems to depend heavily on the accounts of the participants and their friends. Often these projects are at too early a stage to permit a look at the outcome. The authors state that a "common characteristic of the successful projects is the presence of local, charismatic leaders." Another common characteristic is foreign money and experts to impel the projects. It also helps to have the project in a corner of the forest that nobody cares about at the moment.

The source of the deforestation problem – and the eventual solution for it – is to be found in the cities, where economic and social decisions are made. People, particularly the person now reading this review, want more and more things at a faster and faster rate. None of the projects – agroforestry in Haiti, iguana ranching in Panama, soil conservation on steep Philippine slopes, etc. – could last five minutes if gold were discovered in the area.

– Win Carty

POPULATION AND RESOURCES IN WESTERN INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS, edited by Michael S. Teitelbaum and Jay M. Winter. *Population and Development Review*, 1988, Vol. 14 (Supplement).

This special 310-page supplement to *Population and Development Review* recounts some of the population issues and demographic work that have roiled the intellectual history of the last three centuries – from Malthus to Marx, from utopianism to fascism, from evolution to ecology. Organized under political, natural-science, and social-science subject headings, the 13 contributed articles describe how the theorists of various ages have tried to deal with the powerful idea that population *numbers* can give events a new dynamic.

Thinking about population questions has its own long and convoluted history, too often ignored. Consequently, the editors argue, there is "a tendency of today's writers to adopt positions of whose intellectual pedigree they might be largely unaware." That fate is less likely to befall the population person who steeps himself or herself in this fascinating historical overview.

– Art Haupt

Books Received

ADAPTING TO DROUGHT: Farmers, Famines and Desertification in West Africa, by Michael Mortimore. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1989. 299 pages. $59.50 cloth.

AMERICA IN THE GLOBAL '90s, by Austin H. Kiplinger and Knight A. Kiplinger. Washington, D.C.: Kiplinger Books, 1989.

THE CHALLENGE OF GLOBAL WARMING, edited by Dean Edwin Abrahamson. Covelo, Calif.: Island Press, 1989. 350 pages. $19.95 paper.

DISTURBING THE NEST: Family Change and Decline in Modern Society, by David Popenoe. New York: Aldine De Gruyter, 1988. 390 pages.

THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF AMERICANS OF ASIAN DESCENT: An Exploratory Investigation, by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, Clearinghouse Publication No. 95, October 1988. 171 pages.

IDEOLOGY AND IMMIGRATION: Australia 1976 to 1987, by Katharine Betts. Victoria, Australia: Melbourne University Press, 1988. 234 pages. $24.95 paper.

LIFESTYLES, CONTRACEPTION AND PARENTHOOD, edited by Hein Moors and Jeannette Schoorl. The Hague, Netherlands: NIDI/CBGS Publications, 1988. 407 pages.

THE METROPOLIS ERA, Vol. I: A World of Great Cities, edited by Mattei Dogan and John D. Kasarda. Newbury Park, Calif.: Sage Publications, 1988. 194 pages.

THE METROPOLIS ERA, Vol 2: Mega-Cities, edited by Mattei Dogan and John D. Kasarda. Newbury Park, Calif.: Sage Publications, 1988. 322 pages.

THE NEW AMERICANS: Immigrant Life in Southern California, by Ulli Steltzer. Pasadena, Calif.: NewSage Press, 1988. 175 pages.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY: Issues and Future Directions, edited by Ronald H. Magarick and Ronald T. Burkman. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics, 1988. 200 pages.

RURAL AFRICANA, Journal of The African Studies Center, Michigan State University. East Lansing, Mich.: African Studies Center, Issues 28-29, Spring/Fall 1987. 150 pages.

THE SUGAR CANE INDUSTRY: An Historical Geography from its Origins to 1914, by J.H. Galloway. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1989. 266 pages.

SPOTLIGHT

ALBANIA

Population (mid-1989): 3.2 million
Land area: 11,100 sq. miles
Births per 1,000 pop.: 25.9
Deaths per 1,000 pop.: 5.6
Rate of Natural Increase: 2.0 percent
Total Fertility Rate: 3.2 children per woman
Infant Mortality Rate: 28.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
Life Expectancy at Birth: 70 years
GNP per capita (1986 est.): $930
Capital: Tirana

by Gwenda Brophy

Albania, a country the size of Maryland nestled in the Balkans facing the Adriatic Sea, presents an elusive and demographically idiosyncratic picture.

In this extremely closed Eastern Bloc society, obtaining even moderately detailed demographic information is a difficult task. The country is predominantly agrarian – as of 1987 the 1.5-million labor force was 60 percent in agriculture and 40 percent in industry and commerce. Some 70 percent of the population are Moslem, although Albania is a determinedly atheist state and churches and mosques were closed down in 1967.

The 3.1-million population has a annual growth rate of 2.0 percent. This is far and away the fastest growth in Europe, but the government believes that the population is still not increasing rapidly enough. Nevertheless, it has no explicit population policy, and governmental attempts to promote growth have focused on negative inducements rather than positive ones (e.g., the cash and/or child care facilities offered in other European countries).

Family planning has not been encouraged, and general practitioners do not consider this area to be part of their responsibility. There is a marked lack of modern contraceptives, and by all reports the only type available is condoms – possibly imported from the USSR – whose quality is alluded to in their nickname, "galoshes." Their availability and price are not known.

Unlike other Eastern European countries, Albania did not follow the lead of the USSR in the 1950s in loosening restrictions on legal abortion – a key proximate determinant in many other countries in the bloc. At least until recently, abortion has remained severely restricted.

Just the same, fertility has declined from a total fertility rate (TFR) of 6-to-7 average lifetime children per woman in the period of the mid-1950s to 1960, falling to 5.6 in 1965, 4.9 in the mid-1970s, and 4.2 in 1978. In sharp contrast to the range of TFRs in the rest of the Eastern bloc – approximately 1.7 - 2.3 – Albania's TFR of 3.2 stands the highest.

How Albania's fertility reduction was achieved remains an item of speculation. However, use of traditional methods – withdrawal or a combination of withdrawal and rhythm, backed up by illegal abortion – may have played a key role. A high reliance on traditional methods has been a feature of many Eastern European countries. (In Bulgaria, for example, only 8 percent of the reported 76-percent contraceptive prevalence is due to modern methods, in Poland 26 percent out of 75 percent, and in Czechoslovakia 25 percent out of 60 percent.)

Courtesy Office of the Geographer, U.S. Dept. of State

Marriage in Albania comes relatively late, with an average age of 22 years for women and 23 for men. In this country of strong social discipline, there is strict control over the behavior of youth, and by all accounts premarital sex is heavily discouraged.

The level of fertility in Albania remains higher than average in either Western or Eastern Europe, and several factors may be contributing to this. The country is still a traditional, and tradition-steeped, society, with a patriarchal clan structure, and its predominantly rural nature and Moslem profile together with the government interest in promoting population growth would appear to militate against further fertility decline.

The role of women is somewhat ambiguous, reflecting the mix of traditional and statist forces at work in this society. Both men and women must give two years of military service.

Despite the country's isolation and traditional culture, modernization has started to pick up speed, accelerated by the 1985 death of Enver Hoxha, for four decades the country's autocratic ruler. Urbanization now stands at 40 percent, and infant mortality (which was 121 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1950) now stands at 28. Improved health and social services have contributed to a startling increase in life expectancy, to 70 years. And the publication in 1988 of a statistical reference book, *Forty Years of Socialism*, represents a new statistical openness.

Gwenda Brophy is currently a consultant at the Futures Group, Washington, D.C.